

Governor's Office.

Austin, Texas, April 1, 1913.

To the House of Representatives:

I am sending back to you House bill No. 65, without approval. This act proposed the establishment and maintenance of a State normal school to be located in the city of Waco, in McLennan county. A bill almost identical in terms with this one was vetoed by me two years ago. Recently a bill to establish another State normal school for Central West Texas was disapproved. While in this case it is proposed to donate land and property to the State estimated to be worth \$100,000, yet it is safe to say that it would require \$100,000 or \$150,000 to erect and equip adequate buildings for the proposed institution, and would call for \$60,000 to \$80,000 per annum thereafter for maintenance, new buildings and improvements. It would be only a matter of a short time, if the multiplicity of these institutions is to continue, when it would require more revenue to maintain and support them than is now derived from the ad valorem taxes levied for all State purposes.

It is to be regretted that the Legislature, knowing the attitude of the Executive with reference to the establishment of unnecessary public institutions, thereby incurring needless expense to the taxpayers, should continue to send measures of this character to him for approval. The establishment of such institutions doubtless would be pleasing to the local communities fortunate enough to secure them, but the responsibility for their maintenance rests upon the taxpayers of the whole State, and as the representative of the entire people I must again condemn the proposed policy of multiplying such institutions when it is shown that the four normal schools we already have established, with practically 2300 students in attendance, when properly equipped and with a small expenditure for improvement, can accommodate a combined attendance of approximately 5,000.

Respectfully submitted,

O. B. COLQUITT,

Governor of Texas.